



A SHARED Future



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December 2018 / January 2019

Although we are well into 2019, we wish a Happy New Year A SHARED Future Team! We hope the holiday season was restorative for you and your loved ones. We have several updates to share with you in this issue, as we enter Year 3 of A SHARED Future.

We continue to encourage everyone to send in news items, conference and funding announcements, and photos for future updates! Please send your material to Emily Beacock at emily.beacock@dal.ca.

If you are interested in getting involved in any A SHARED Future activity or project, please contact Marc Calabretta at marc.calabretta@queensu.ca. We are always looking for extra hands on deck!

I. Highlights

SevenGen: Powering Resilience Summit

Several A SHARED Future team members were in attendance at the *SevenGen: Powering Resilience*, an Indigenous Student Energy Summit hosted by Student Energy's Mount Royal University Chapter January 24-27th on Tsuu-T'ina Niitsítpiis-stahkoi (Blackfoot) and Métis territories in Calgary, Alberta. The Summit hosted over 200 Indigenous Youth from across Canada alongside Indigenous leaders, industry

representatives, entrepreneurs and academics. The Summit provided delegates with an opportunity to work with together and with mentors to build relationships, share experiences and raise awareness of challenges and opportunities throughout the renewable energy sector in Canada from the perspective of Indigenous youths.



From left: Shery Yano (David Suzuki Foundation), Michelle Myers (I-WIRE Project), Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta (Research Associate), Heather Castleden, Alicia Campney (I-WIRE Project, and Eryn Stewart (Lumos Energy/ICE Social Enterprise), at the SevenGen Powering Resilience Summit in Tsuu-T'ina.

Heather Castleden, Jeff Masuda, and Melissa Quesnelle were invited to participate in the gathering as Mentors. Several of the invited panelists at the Summit are also a part of A SHARED Future, such as Melissa Quesnelle Naato'ihkpiakii (I-WIRE Project Co-Lead and

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member of the NRCan Project Advisory Committee), Chief Gordon Planes of T'Sou-ke Nation (T'Sou-ke Project Co-Lead and International Advisory Committee Member), and Christopher Henderson of Lumos Energy and ICE Social Enterprise (Key Collaborator). Melissa and Chief Planes participated in a plenary session featuring inspiring Indigenous Changemakers working in the energy sector and making impacts in their local communities. Melissa participated in a second plenary on community resilience, energy, and sustainability, while Chris participated in a panel discussion on challenges and opportunities facing Indigenous communities in the renewable energy sector. It was a four-day session full of thought-provoking dialogue, action, and reflection.



From Left: A SHARED Future Co-Leads Chief Gordon Planes and Melissa Quesnelle (Naatoi'Ihkpiakii) participating in a plenary discussion with Melina Laboucan-Massimo, Victoria Marchbank, and Nikita Kahpeaysewat at the SevenGen: Powering Resilience Summit.

The Summit was a wonderful opportunity to share the work of the A SHARED Future research program and bring awareness to delegates of the work we are conducting. In doing so, the team connected with youth and industry professionals that may be interested in collaborating with members of the A SHARED Future team to organize an urban youth-led project. Stay tuned for more developments on this collaborative project as conversations continue to unfold. The A SHARED Future team wishes to thank Co-Chairs Cory Beaver and Disa Crow Chief for extending the invitation to us to attend—it was a remarkable and inspirational Summit.

Programmatic Steering Committee Annual Face-to-Face Meeting

The A SHARED Future Programmatic Steering Committee met for their annual face-to-face meeting in Kingston, Ontario from December 5-7. Over a jam-packed two

days, PSC members brought each other up to speed on their respective projects, provided input on project challenges, and developed a collective workplan for year 3 of the project. The project updates shared in this issue reflect some of these discussions.



The A SHARED Future Programmatic Steering Committee and Members of the Kingston Team. December 5, 2018.

Members of the PSC had the opportunity to connect with local members of the A SHARED Future team to hear about the work being done by partners here in Kingston.

The meeting also included a guest presentation by A SHARED Future Collaborator Dr. Warren Mabee, Canada Research Chair in Renewable Energy Development and Implementation (Queen's University). Dr. Mabee reviewed the current areas of focus that are dominating discussions of Canadian energy policy, and explored issues including pipeline capacity, oil prices, and the role of government. He described a number of policy options and areas of importance to the broad energy file, and described pathways for reducing emissions over the next 80 years. His summary provided a useful introduction to the various types of energy policy currently being used, and the policy requirements for us to meet our Paris agreement commitments.



Dr. Warren Mabee (Canada Research Chair in Renewable Energy Development and Implementation) presenting at the Programmatic Steering Committee in December meeting.

We also had the opportunity to hear from post-doctoral fellow Chad Walker (Queen's University). Chad unveiled a new project He and Heather are developing entitled "Clean Energy as a contribution to reconciliation efforts? Exploring developers' and utilities' perspectives". The presentation served as a useful opportunity for Chad and Heather to workshop their ideas as they refine their research proposal. Thank you, Warren and Chad, for taking the time to share your inspiring work with the Programmatic Steering Committee.

II. Project Updates

Members of the PSC are all Academic Co-Leads on the various Projects; below are updates on their respective projects. In this update, we have two new project concepts to introduce that are currently under development—Jeff Masuda's Urban Youth-Led Renewable Energy Project, as well as Chad Walker and Heather Castleden's Developers and Utilities Project. We now also have a section for trainee project updates as A SHARED Future grows and Co-Leads begin to support trainee projects. Here is what Project Co-Leads had to say:

1. Youth-Led Renewable Energy

Lead: Jeff Masuda and TBD

Project Assistant: Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta
Advisory Committee: TBD

Current Status: Project concept under development

Update: A new research project on renewable energy, Indigenous youth leadership and urban environments is under development by Jeff Masuda and his research team at the Centre for Environmental Health Equity (CEHE). A funding proposal is expected to be presented to the A SHARED Future Programmatic Steering Committee in April 2019 for review and consideration. CEHE is looking to establish partnerships with interested community stakeholders for co-developing a relevant research design. For this purpose, Jeff, Heather, and Carlos Sanchez-Pimienta attended the *SevenGen: Powering Resilience Summit* in Calgary on Jan 24th – 27th to network, build relationships, and explore potential research partnerships.

2. I-WIRE: Indigenous Women in Renewable Energy

Co-Leads: Naatoi'Ihkpiakii (Melissa Quesnelle) and Heather Castleden

Project Assistant: Open

Advisory Committee: Barbara Dumont-Hill, Tanna Pirie-Wilson, Eryn Stewart, and Open

Current Status: Phase 1 data collected; data analysis and film production underway

Update: Since the I-WIRE Research Gathering in October, Heather and Melissa have been working with a team of students to transcribe and analyze the interviews from the Gathering. When Heather and Melissa met up at the SevenGen summit, they were delighted to see so many of the I-WIRE participants there, it felt like a reunion! Heather also had the precious opportunity to spend two days in Melissa's home territory at the Kainai First Nation.

3. Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI

Lead: Mary Beth Doucette

Project Assistant: Open

Community Partners: Elder Albert Marshall, Cheryl Bartlett, Stan Johnson, Lisa Young

Current Status: Project proceeding as planned

Update: Mary Beth Doucette (Cape Breton University) met with CEPI community partners in December to talk about her new role as Principal Investigator on the project. The CEPI team purchased a computer for the Elder supporting the project so they can better keep in touch and support the project more effectively.

The Team is awaiting ethical approval before primary research gets underway. In the meantime, a lot of tea is being sipped between Mary Beth and Project Advisors Elder Albert Marshall and Cheryl Bartlett as they chat about the theory of Two-Eyed Seeing and strengthen relationships amongst the Team before the project gets fully underway.

4. We Lived This Way Before - Tobique First Nation

Co-Leads: Diana Lewis and Tanna Pirie-Wilson

Project Assistant: Serena Mendizabal

Advisory Committee: Forthcoming

Current Status: Project Underway

Update: Diana and Tanna's proposal was successfully approved by the PSC and Executive Body in December. Congratulations Diana and Tanna on this major milestone; we wish you success in your research going forward.

The *We Lived This Way Before*, ASF project with Tobique First Nation, has launched and the first meeting of the team is being planned as this newsletter hits your inbox. The team is so excited to start their work and look forward to keeping you updated on the work as it progresses.

We are happy to introduce Serena Mendizabal and Emily Beacock as members of the team. Serena is coming on as an Undergraduate Research Assistant. Serena is a Haudenosaunee (Cayuga) undergraduate student, currently studying an Honours Double Major in Media, Information, and Technoculture, and First Nations Studies at Western University. Throughout university, Serena has gone back to her community of the Six Nations of the Grand River to work with her people. Past experiences include working with Six Nations Polytechnic on organizing and hosting the World Indigenous People's Conference on Education in 2017.



Serena Mendizabal, Undergraduate Research Assistant with the 'We Lived This Way Before' Project Team.

This past summer, Serena worked with Six Nations of the Grand River Development Corporation – a corporation with a mission to achieve economic self-sufficiency through renewable energy projects and economic development in the territory, without comprising the values of the Six Nations people. This gave her an opportunity to work in multiple fields, such as internal and external communications; programming in the Six Nations community; and data collection, engagement, and facilitation through the Six Nations Community Plan.

One of the major projects Serena led was the Solar Powered Boat Race renewable energy activity (see <http://sndevecorp.ca>), which spread across multiple elementary schools in Six Nations to encourage Indigenous students from a young age to become involved in the conversation about creating a sustainable future. Through the construction of solar powered boats, made up of recyclable materials and solar cells, students were able to grasp how renewable energy can impact them in their everyday lives. Serena hopes to continue her studies after her she completes her undergraduate degree.



Emily Beacock, Research Coordinator with the 'We Lived This Way Before' Project Team.

Emily is a white settler from Chatham, Ontario, currently in the second year of her Master of Environmental Studies at Dalhousie University. Her thesis research is part of the NunatuKavut-A SHARED Future research collaboration, and aims to support resurgence, empowerment, and autonomy of Southern Inuit by analyzing community perspectives on energy, sustainability, and well-being. Emily is hoping to pursue a PhD that looks more closely at the relationship between land, wellbeing and community, through the lens of decolonization, self-determination and autonomy. Currently working as a research assistant on the NunatuKavut-A SHARED Future project (Debbie Martin), Emily is excited to be moving into a new position as a Research Coordinator with Diana Lewis at Western University!

Let's all welcome Serena and Emily to the ASF team!

5. Getting Off Diesel in NunatuKavut

Co-Leads: Debbie Martin and Amy Hudson

Project Assistant: Emily Beacock

Current Status: Project underway

Update: The team is working to organize another Energy Summit in Goose Bay to talk to community members and organizations about preliminary findings and share the report Nick Mercer (University of Waterloo) prepared in the fall. The Energy Summit will provide an opportunity for the team to seek feedback and discuss ways forward to address community and energy concerns.

6. Advancing Culturally Relevant Gender Based Analysis in Indigenous Research on Renewable Energy Futures and Health

Co-Leads: Jeff Masuda and TBD

Project Assistant: Magnus Nowell

Advisory Committee: Programmatic Steering Committee

Current Status: Project proceeding as planned.

Update: The CRGBA project has been approved by the PSC and Executive Body. Congratulations to the CRGBA team; we wish you the best in your research moving forward.

The project aims to investigate how A SHARED Future Pls, Co-Pls, and their associated Community Advisory Committees understand sex and gender in relation to reconciliation and renewable energy projects. The team hit the ground running with data collection in the New Year, having begun conducting interviews with Project Leads that aim to provide a space to discuss the role of sex and gender in research projects, the implementation of culturally-relevant gender based analysis, and understand how the Gender Co-Champions can best support A SHARED Future's broader program of research.

7. Working Towards Energy Security, Self-Determination, and Reconciliation: A Collaborative Analysis of Natural Resources Canada's Off Diesel Initiative

Lead: Heather Castleden

Manager: Derek Kornelsen

Project Assistant: Priscilla Apronti

Advisory Committee: Naato'ihkpiakii (Melissa Quesnelle), Ken Paul, Diana Lewis, and TBD

Current Status: Proceeding as planned

Update: In December, the research team learned that – following meetings with Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), the Indigenous Clean Energy (ICE) network, and the Pembina Institute in October, November, and December – it was decided that the ICE network would take on a more central role in the delivery of the Off-Diesel Initiative (ODI) program, while the Pembina Institute (formerly involved in program delivery) would shift their responsibilities to focusing on assessment of policies related to clean energy development. Further, changes have been made to ensure that all participants for the ODI will be from remote Indigenous communities, rather than remote communities generally. The ODI will be formally launched in February of this year with final selection of participants expected in early spring.

The research team is eagerly anticipating beginning interviews with government, utility companies, NGOs, and communities as the ODI gets under way. With the formal grant agreement with NRCan signed and processed by Queen's, the ethics forms submitted, and interview materials nearly finalized, it is expected that data collection will likely begin as early February. The ASF team has been invited to a number of ODI

related events that are tentatively scheduled throughout spring and summer of 2019, which will provide excellent opportunities to engage with those participating in the program. A meeting with the Indigenous Advisory Committee is scheduled for the beginning of February, at which point next steps will be discussed.

8. Perspectives Among Indigenous Youth on Energy and Food Sovereignty

Co-Leads: Hannah Tait Neufeld and Chief Gordon Planes.

Project Assistant: Brianna Poirier

Advisory Committee: Forthcoming

Current Status: Project proposal pending approval by the PSC.

Update: Hannah Tait Neufeld (University of Guelph) and Brianna have submitted their proposal to the PSC for review. The project proposes to explore the perspectives of Indigenous youth on food and energy sovereignty in cross-cultural Indigenous environments. In doing so, the project seeks to achieve the following objectives: 1) to formalize a food education component to be used with each "Walking Together" youth cohort; 2) to identify and understand barriers youth face incorporating sustainable practices and Indigenous Knowledge in the field; and 3) to explore the concept of food as a renewable energy source through an Indigenous lens. Stay tuned for updates as Hannah and Chief Planes' proposal moves forward.



Dr. Chad Walker lays out the Developers and Utilities project for the first time to other Project Co-Leads at the December PSC meeting.

III. Trainee Project Updates

1. Clean Energy as a Contribution to Reconciliation Efforts? Exploring Developers and Canadian Electrical Utilities' Perspectives on Indigenous Partnerships in Renewable Energy in Canada

Lead: Chad Walker, Postdoctoral Fellow (Supervisor: Heather Castleden)

Advisory Committee: Programmatic Steering Committee

Current Status: Project proposal pending submission to the PSC

Update: Chad and Heather are moving forward and continuing to shape the proposed utilities project. The work was inspired by and in many ways, extends the interview findings that are emerging from conversations with developers partnering with Indigenous communities in Canada.

Discussions have been held early this new year with a variety of stakeholders with the aim to co-design research questions that will make up this project. Through these, consideration is now being given toward: i) creating a 'utility project' advisory board; ii) forming a partnership with a Canadian non-profit (with connections to Canadian electrical utilities) and ii) organizing a research gathering to build relationships and perhaps collect data. Chad and Heather hope to share the full utility project proposal with the PSC in the coming weeks and will be welcoming feedback.

2. Exploring Relations, Experience and Ways of Knowing in an Interdisciplinary Cross-Cultural Program of Research

Lead: Sara Rotz, Postdoctoral Fellow (Supervisor: Heather Castleden)

Advisory Committee: Programmatic Steering Committee

Current Status: Project underway

Update: Sarah Rotz (Queen's University) continues to move the institutional ethnography of A SHARED Future forward as she has begun to interview Principal Investigators for other projects that also received funding for the CIHR Environments and Health Signature Initiative. Sarah continues to conduct, transcribe, and analyze interviews amidst her ongoing research on Indigenous Methodologies.



Co-Leads Heather Castleden and Sarah Rotz 'talking shop' after hours at the A SHARED Future PSC and Kingston Team Dinner in December.

Ontario from May 6-9 2019. The symposium is open to established and emerging researchers. This year's theme is climate change and the four elements. You can find out more about the Symposium [here](#).

V. In the News:

- ✚ Eryn Fitzgerald (University of Victoria) successfully defended her Master's thesis in December 2018 entitled 'Powering Self-Determination: Indigenous Renewable Energy Developments in Canada'. Eryn connected with Heather at the *Renewables in Remote Communities* Conference in Whitehorse in October 2017. Congratulations Eryn—we thank you for sharing your work with the A SHARED Future network. You can read Eryn's thesis abstract [here](#).
- ✚ Chad Walker (Queen's University) shared this news article discussing the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in which they state that the Site C dam may be in violation to international

agreements that require the free, prior, and informed consent of local Indigenous populations. Read more [here](#).

- ✚ The *SevenGen: Powering Resilience* Conference made national headlines! Read more about the conference from the CBC [here](#).
- ✚ Guest contributors Tyler McCreary (Florida State University) and Rick Budhwa (Crossroad Cultural Resource Management) offer their take on the Wet'suwet'en conflict for the Globe and Mail. You can read about it [here](#).
- ✚ Rita Wong shared her thoughts on the events that have unfolded on Wet'suwet'en Territory in January and says we can all learn from Land Defenders [here](#).

Thank you to those who shared news articles with us. If you read an article or see a multimedia piece that you think fits the A SHARED Future research program, we would love to see it! Please send all content to emily.beacock@dal.ca

IV. Upcoming Events:

- ✚ The Centre for Environment and Sustainability's EnviroCon 2019 is taking place at the University of Western Ontario Friday, March 22 2019. Registration is free to attend. Learn more about the convention [here](#).
- ✚ The 3rd Biennial Gdo Akiiminaan Ganawendandaan (Taking Care of Our Land) Symposium is happening in Sault Ste. Marie,